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**PATENT** 

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## What is claimed is:

A method of purchasing a money order via the internet, comprising the steps of:
providing a money order system capable of generating money orders;
contacting the money order system via the internet by a user desiring to purchase
a money order in a predefined amount;

transmitting information to the money order system via the internet required to purchase said money order, said information including at least a user's identification, an identification of an intended receiver of the money order and an financial amount for the money order;

generating a money order from said money order system upon receipt of said transmitted information; and

sending said generated money order to said intended receiver.

- 2. A method of purchasing a thorey order via the Internet as recited tin claim 1 further including the step of generating a e-mail message to at least one of said user or intended receiver of said money order that said money order has been sent to said intended receiver.
- 3. A method of purchasing a money order via the Internet as recited in claim 2 further including the steps of

transmitting credit card information associated with said user; and electronically processing said credit card information to make available funds needed for said purchase of said money order by said user.

4. A method for purchasing a money order via the internet as recited in claim 2 further including the steps of:

establishing a funds account on said users behalf in said money order system, said funds account having a predetermined amount of monetary funds;

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